The unique specimen was taken by general sweeping on open flowery ground on Mount Caburn, a chalk hill two miles south-east of Lewes in East Sussex, on 19.vi.1993, by Mr R.A. Jones, and submitted to me. Much effort by him and Mr P. J. Hodge at and near the spot has so far failed to yield further material – whence the name I have chosen. Attempts to contact the *Mordellistena* specialist in Prague, Dr Jan Horák, in connection with this insect, have unfortunately met with no success.

The occurrence of yet another member of this genus in England should not occasion great surprise. I know of a further species, likewise apparently unique as British, not yet published.

Reference

Ermisch, K., 1969. In Freude, H., Harde, K.W. & Lohse, G.A., *Die Käfer Mitteleuropas*: 175,177. Goecke & Evers, Krefeld.

Some observations on pigment stability in the wing markings of *Graphium weiskei* (Ribbe) (Lep.: Papilionidae)

Hanging in a display case on my wall are two specimens of *Graphium weiskei,* both taken by myself in Chimbu Province, Papua New Guinea in 1976. Originally these were easily discernible as being of two varieties; one normal and the other having the pink colour of the sub-basal patch replaced by pale-blue. Both of these varieties are illustrated in Parsons (1999. *The Butterflies of Pupua New Guinea: Their systematics and biology.* Academic Press, London). Now they are indistinguishable from each other as, over a period of about ten years, the blue in the one and the mauve in the other have oxidised to bright pink so that only two colours remain in the wing spots and sub-basal patch – green and pink.

Haugum and Samson (1981. Notes on *Graphium weiskei.* Lepid. Gp. of 1968 Newsl, (Suppl.) 1-12) postulated that the colour forms of *G. weiskei* probably resulted from the "degree of photochemical oxidation (or similar influencing factors affecting the live insect)". There now would appear to be three main objections to that hypothesis, namely:

a) Colour varieties are already apparent in fresh imagines (Parsons *loc. cit.*)

b) Colour changes require a long time to occur photochemically, (albeit in dead *G. weiskei*)

c) such a mechanism would appear to require blue to be the original colour of the pigment on emergence and would, in the case of the two varieties considered here, make the blue form much more common than indeed it is. (I have estimated its frequency in the wild to be in the order of 0.001.)

– J.B. Jobe, 13 Willow Walk, Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 2LS.